there is a shortage of forensic science experts in the country which often results in incomplete investigations into many medico-legal cases; and

(b) if so, what steps , Government propose to take for the removal of this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE); (a) There is no definite information about the short- j age of forensic science experts in the country, resulting in incomeplele in vestigations into many medico-legal cases.

(b) The Medical Council of India have reported that forensic medicine' is included in the undergraduate curriculum and about 15 universities arc recognised by the Council for award of Postgraduate degrees of MD. Diploma in forensic Medicine. The Council has also given permission for starting of Post-graduate Degree/Diploma in forensic medicine to about 18 medical institutions in the country.

Accidents at the unmanned railway crossings

2591. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of unmanned level crossings in the country, State-wise, and those converted into manned crossings during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of persons are killed or injured by trains every year at unmanned level crossings;

(c) if so, what is the number of accident and the persons killed and injured thereby during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) what is the amount of compensation paid to each, person killed and by, when, the ailways propose to convert all these level crossings inte manned ones or introduce suitable safety measures, to avoid deaths?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The number of unmanned level crossings, Statewise is as follows:

State/Union Territory	No. unmanned LCs as on 31-3-87 596
Andhra Pradesh	1,648
Bihar	1,752
Gujarat	3,407
Haryana	355
Himachal Pradesh	*12*
Jammu & Kashmir	18
Kamataka	1,103
Kerala	17C
Madhya Pradesh	1,72
Maharashtra	1,211
Orissa	*98'*
Punjab	94:
Rajasthan	1,66
Tamil Nadu	1,52
Tripura	
Uttar Pradesh	2,70
West Bengal	1,5
Delhi	
Goa	
Pondicherry	
Chandigarh	

The number of unmanned level cros sings converted into manned crossings during last three years ia as folows:
1985-86 1936-87 1987-

(b) No, Sir

(c) Number of accidents at unman ned level crossings during the last 3 years and the number of persona killed and injured is as under:

Year	No. of accidents -at unmanned level crossings	No. of casualties		
		Killed	Injured	Total
1985-86	40	54	153	207
1986-87	46	95	189	284
1987-88		54	87	141

(d) No compensation is payable in the case of accidents to the road users at an unmanned level crossing under the Indian Railways Act.

The Railways have so far been following the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings where the volume of traffic or other specie; tures justify manning. However, based on the practices obtaining in other advanced countries, Indian Railways are presently contemplating the provision of a solar-powered, radio-operated, automatic audio-visual warning system actuated by the approaching (rain to caution the road users well in advance. Tbis system. which will minimise the need for manning of unmanned level crossings, is now inder trial.

Introduction of cold storage on the rail

2592. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Vill the Minister of RAILWAYS be leased to state:

(a) whether Government have con-| the desirability of introducing old storage on the rail' to carry ru its, vegetables. fish and other erishable goods so as to encourage re growers to produce more and the msumers get the best at reasonable and

(b) what are the existing facilities available with the Railways in this regard and what would be the pro jected increase in the traffic by intro duction of the said moving cold stor ages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A few refrigerated vans were manufactured in the past for transportation of perishable items but the same we're not sufficiently patronised. Therefore, the prospects of this traffic is negligible.

At present only 3 refrigerated vans are available with the Railways.

Seminar on Child Abuse

2593. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ' be pleased to state:

(a) 'whether a seminar on Child Abuse Was held in Delhi during tho third week of June 1988;

(b) if so. what are the names of the participants in this seminar;

(c) what is the nature of discussion held; and